



# House of Representatives

General Assembly

**File No. 346**

February Session, 2014

Substitute House Bill No. 5321

*House of Representatives, April 3, 2014*

The Committee on Human Services reported through REP. ABERCROMBIE of the 83rd Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

## **AN ACT CONCERNING INTERPRETER QUALIFICATIONS.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

- 1 Section 1. (*Effective July 1, 2014*) Not later than December 31, 2014,
- 2 the Commissioner of Rehabilitation Services, in consultation with the
- 3 Office of Protection and Advocacy for Persons with Disabilities and the
- 4 Connecticut Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf task force on
- 5 interpreting, shall: (1) Develop a plan with the Commissioner of
- 6 Education to ensure that an adequate number of qualified interpreters
- 7 are available to assist students who are deaf or hard of hearing, and (2)
- 8 submit a report recommending (A) any new standards necessary to
- 9 ensure that an adequate number of qualified interpreters are available
- 10 to assist state residents, (B) a timeline to implement such new
- 11 standards, (C) a fee structure, if advisable, for interpreters to register
- 12 with the Department of Rehabilitation Services, and (D) methods to
- 13 monitor compliance with interpreter qualification standards. The
- 14 Commissioner of Rehabilitation Services shall submit such plan and

15 report, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general  
16 statutes, to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly  
17 having cognizance of matters relating to human services and  
18 education.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
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Section 1	<i>July 1, 2014</i>	New section
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**HS**      *Joint Favorable Subst.*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

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**OFA Fiscal Note**

**State Impact:** None

**Municipal Impact:** None

**Explanation**

There is no fiscal impact to the Department of Rehabilitation Services (DORS) or the Department of Education from developing a plan to ensure sufficient qualified interpreters are available to assist students who are deaf or hard of hearing. There is also no cost to DORS to submit a report on standards for interpreters required under the bill to the Human Services and Education committees.

**The Out Years**

**State Impact:** None

**Municipal Impact:** None

*Sources: Testimony 3/13/14*

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**OLR Bill Analysis**

**sHB 5321**

***AN ACT CONCERNING INTERPRETER QUALIFICATIONS.***

**SUMMARY:**

The Office of Legislative Research does analyze Special Acts.

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

Human Services Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 18 Nay 0 (03/18/2014)